[834] [574] the *adats* give the engaged partner the right to dissolve the betrothal promises and to reclaim the *kalym* and engagement gifts.[21]

Seduction and attempted seduction are crimes almost as serious as rape and are punished accordingly.[22]

[835] The Chechens harbour an unusual abhorrence of incest. If an illegitimate child is born of an incestuous union, a heap of dirt is brought to the yard of the persons concerned, or sometimes to a public place, as a special protest of the community.[23] Generally speaking, penalties for sex offenses are inflicted on the culprit by the family, but, in the case of incest, the whole *community* protests. It is a crime that goes beyond the interests of the individual and joint-family.

A closer study of Table 19 will bring out three important facts regarding Chechen penalties for sexual offenses: (1) *both* the adulteress and adulterer are punished,[24] (2) they are killed on the spot, but the avenger thereby becomes a blood-enemy of the family of the person he kills, and (3) pardon and reconciliation are more or less the rule today, but not without heavy reparation and divorce.

TABLE 19

Penalty for Adultery according to Chechen Adats

Tribe Chechen	Penalty		Sources
	Adulteress	Adulterer	
Dzherakh and Nazranians	Recently: adulteress is divorced, must refund *kalym*, plus 48 cows to husband.	Husband may kill him in the act.	Leontovič, II, pp. 116 f, § 6; II, p. 118, § 14. Grabovskij, "Inguši," SSKG, IX (1876), pp. 53 f.
	Formerly: husband cut adulteress' nose off, divorced her, received 23 head of cattle from her family.	Might be killed in act; if escaped, had to pay 23 head of cattle to offended husband.	
Terek Chechens	Husband may not kill adulteress; may bite nose off, divorce her.	Husband may kill adulterer in act; if pardons him, husband has right to 70 head of cattle.	Leontovič, II, p. 122, § 2. Dirr, AGKB, p. 77. Leontovič, II, p. 113, § 9.
Kists	May not kill adulterous wife; may cut her nose off and divorce her; he receives 24 cows from her family.	Husband may kill adulterer in act, but obliged to pay bloodwite of 12 cows; if adulterer's sib takes vengeance on husband, must pay bloodwite of 24 cows. If adulterer escapes, he must pay husband 24 cows.	Leontovič, II, p. 120, § 23. Dirr, AGKB, p. 77. Leontovič, II, p. 113, § 9.
Salati Aukh Ichkerians	Husband may cut her nose off and divorce her. He may not kill her.		Leontovič, II, p. 139, § 63; II, p. 113, § 9. Dirr, *l. c.*

[21] Leontovič, II, p. 172, § 145.

[22] Leontovič, II, p. 173, § 149.

[23] Berže, Čečnja i Čečency, pp. 86 f.

[24] This seems to be a further evolution of the *adat* permitting the offended husband to punish his wife *with impunity*. The right to kill the adulterers most likely was not limited to the